

Fall  
2023

HIS connection

"...The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."  
(Matthew 12:33-37)

## 01 HIS Messages

Opening

Envisioning  
the Restoration of Education

Dr. Hamin Baek, Principal

... "I pray that our Lord may use HIS and other Christian schools to show that a God-centered education is the true alternative and hope for education of the world that is in pain. I also hope that if you decide to send your children to HIS, please do so not just out of the concerns for HIS education and the university for your children but with a determination that you will take part in God's education movement or education restoration movement, which is the inclusive vision for all such details." ...

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Devotion

## Are you speaking life or death?

Mr. Andrew Kim, MHS Bible Teacher

Growing up in the US, we were taught a parable that said "Sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me." I never liked that proverb. I recently heard an updated version of that proverb that said "Sticks and stones may break our bones but words will break our hearts." How true this is. Jesus taught about the power of words and in Matthew 12:33-37, he taught his disciples some important truths that are relevant to this day. Jesus teaches us that we will all give an account for every word we speak at the end of our days. Imagine if someone followed you around and recorded every word you spoke for a week and then played that recording back for you. ...

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The Bible Says About

Is it a sin  
not to pray before you eat?

Mr. Youngjoon O, MHS Bible Teacher

The Bible has no specific commands that you should pray before you eat. However, the Bible does command us to always be grateful. What does being thankful have to do with praying before you eat?

In James 1:17, it says that every good and perfect gift comes from God. Prayer of thanksgiving for our meal humbles our hearts before God and helps us to appreciate food as a gift from God. In Matthew 6:11, Jesus taught us to pray "Give us today our daily bread." Prayer of thanksgiving for our meal humbles our hearts before God and reminds us that God alone meets all of our needs. ...

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# Will you join us?

좋은 학교 있을까?



Is there a good school?

## A backstage story

Ms. Sei Yeon Choi, Teaching and Learning Center Director

In addition to wrapping up the first semester and preparing for the second, Review Days are reserved for HIS faculty and staff members to plan how to prepare during the summer vacation. Various groups, including homeroom teachers, team teachers, elementary, middle and high school teachers, and the whole group, etc., gathered to share their episodes and ideas. It was worth coming together and devising better educational methods.

Another benefit for faculty and staff members on Review Days is that we all can worship God as a whole. Praising God, and listening to His words, we let ourselves fix His message on our minds with gratitude. It also led us to make firm the feeble knees and be of one mind by encouraging one another. ...

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## 2024 Admissions Information Day

Ms. Mikoung Kim, MHS Admissions

Two admissions information sessions for the 2024 academic year were held on Saturday, August 19 at Onnuri Church in Yangjae, Seoul and on Saturday, August 26 at HIS Chapel respectively. Subsequently, a special lecture by the principal and Admission Information Day was held on Saturday, September 2, at Kumho Bethel Church in Gwangju. Among them, over 120 and 200 students and parents attended Admissions Information Day in Seoul and Pohang, respectively, and nearly 100 students and parents watched the live stream on YouTube. ... We thank God for helping us to organize the events properly and smoothly in Seoul and Pohang (the YouTube live broadcast as well). And thank you to all the faculty, staff and students who participated in the HIS Admission Information Day.

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초등  
ES

중등  
MS

고등  
HS

## Christian School Teachers Conference

Dr. Hamin Baek, Principal

The Christian School Teachers Conference is a conference held every odd year by the Christian School Education Research Center to help teachers serving in Christian schools recharge themselves by renewing their calling and interacting with teachers from other schools. ... I earnestly pray that the day will come when Christian schools stand more firmly on the foundation of the gospel and become an alternative and a hope for the suffering Korean education and society.

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## HIS Parents Prayer Meeting

Ms. Maria Bae, HIS Parent

Every Wednesday morning at 8:40 a.m., many parents of HIS ES, MS, and HS students gather to pray at HIS Chapel. ... In order for my child to be happy, a friend of my child must be happy, the teacher must be happy, the school must be in the right function, the church must be restored. By doing so, we broaden our prayer naturally.

I hope that HIS parents, who have gathered in Handong to raise their children as God-pleasing children, will like to cherish this chance of prayer. I earnestly hope that through the prayers by parents, the spiritual influence will flow with faith and love in HIS so that it has supported this school to be established as a school of God. Parents, see you on Wednesday!

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## Elementary

## ES Opening Ceremony of Fall 2023

Ms. Esther Park, ES Director

The school building once again buzzed with the lively sounds of students' laughter and conversations. The entire elementary division assembled in the chapel for the Opening Ceremony. During the ceremony, Dr. Baek reminded us again to think about "What is God's story in your life?" ... I offer gratitude to God for safeguarding all the teachers and students throughout the summer break. The second semester always seems to pass by more swiftly than the first. My prayer is that this semester will be marked by substantial growth in physical health, academic pursuits, spiritual development, character refinement, and the nurturing of social relationships.

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## ES Student Orientation of Fall 2023

ES Faculty

For the 2nd semester, the elementary school held an orientation session to introduce school life to both current and new students. It was a time for the students to prepare together to safely use the facilities of HIS they were sent to and to get along well with friends. Wouldn't it be beneficial to get to know more about HIS school life, where they spend almost half of each day?

### Safety Drill

1

### School Violence

3

Behaviors  
at the hallway/stairs/  
ES office and Class  
preparation

2

4

Nutrition:  
Healthy Eating Habits /  
Food management

6

Family life  
education

Recess and  
court rules

5

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## Prayer in faith changed "80% chance of rain"

Ms. Esther Ahn, Grade 3 Teacher

The 3rd grade students had the special opportunity to learn survival swimming and try out standup paddle boarding at Yeongildae Beach on August 31. ... It was a unique time to learn outside of the classroom, thanks to the fund provided by Gyeongsangbuk-do Ministry of Education's career advancement support program.

There was another factor that made this trip extra special to the third graders. Earlier in the week, the weather forecast predicted 80% rain on the scheduled day of the event. However, many of the 3rd grade students prayed for God to clear the skies so that the trip would not be canceled. And God heard their prayers! The sky was blue and the students had a great time learning in the ocean. It was no coincidence that the students were learning about Jesus' miracles and the power of God in Bible class that week. Not only did the students learn survival swimming, but they also learned God's goodness. One of the students shared with joy, "I am so thankful that God heard our prayers."

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## Middle & High

## 7th Graders' Career-experiencing Trip

Mr. Eunkyoo Lee, MHS Guidance Team Leader

our seventh graders had a chance to think about our own nation and to reflect on their callings in this land on July 7. Students spent their morning exploring the Korean military, and their afternoon visiting the National Science Museum. ... By doing so, they could embody their careers further. I hope that the seventh graders will be able to realize and prepare more specifically for the calling of God that has been given to each of them through this time.

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## MHS Community Service and Community Activities in Gyeongju

Ms. Jangmi Kim, MHS Co-curriculum Team Leader

On arriving at Gampo Oryu Goara Beach, the shining summer beach created by God welcomed us. With God's grace, it was neither too cloudy nor too windy to do volunteer work. Each team started beachcombing activities from 9 am. Every time we picked up trash, we found the beach cleaner. MHS students could feel proud that they all put their little effort into cleaning nature and the marine ecosystem. ...

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## The excitement with new beginnings

Student Council

... This orientation also provided the participants the experience of 'diversity,' one of the school's strengths. We could notice that the new students joined HIS from various backgrounds and with various motives makes the school community richer. Both new and current students will have an opportunity to grow together and share meaningful experiences from now on. We're looking forward to the new students contributing to our school life with new perspectives and passion, and creating pleasant moments from varying backgrounds. Through this, students will be on a precious journey to console and inspire one another and grow together through new challenges!

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## Opening Ceremony & Students Orientation of Fall 2023

Ms. Jangmi Kim, MHS Co-curriculum Team Leader

We started the first day of this semester with greetings and welcomes from homeroom teachers and classmates who hadn't seen one another for some time. In the opening ceremony, we listened to the principal and enthusiastically welcomed the newly transferred students. The orientation was held over two days, on the 14th and 16th. It was a valuable time for HIS students to share their experiences and stories during the vacation for a leap forward. First of all, the new student council members, who will serve and lead HIS students for the next one year, were presented with their appointment certificates. We shared our expectations for the HIS community with the new student council, and encouraged the new student council. ...

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## A homeroom community building party-like event

Ms. In Ok Kwak, MHS Korean LA Teacher

HIS MHS has a small but definitely happy program called 'Homeroom Activity Day' in the first week of every semester. It's a student-planned, student-led celebration where all the homeroom mates gather to play group games. ... Seong-hyun Yoo (11A), who transferred to HIS and spent a week in HIS, said, "It helped me adjust to school because I could socialize with friends I hadn't talked to before while sitting around and playing games." This program, which began with the opening of HIS, is a meaningful event for MHS students to get to know each other better by planning, organizing, and participating in programs themselves.

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New Student President's Essay

### Responsible love

Eunjun Seo, Student President

“The responsible love” is well shown in the story of Moses. Even with the lack of confidence as a leader along with the fear of his situation, Moses loved Israel and boldly stepped up with the responsibility given by God. Similar to Moses, I've been led by my affection for Handong. ... We're Christians who attend a Christian school. It is necessary not only to carry out simple rules and tasks, but also to solve one another's problems and understand one another better. I will serve the school as an example with Moses, who has such a deep and sincere heart. I will devote myself to presenting how homeroom leaders and student council members think of their roles as those of love and inclusion. I will pray that the Handong community will have a faith-based vision, hope in heaven, and dependence on our Lord who gives us strength. I will try to make Handong full of love more than today. Thank you.



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New Student Vice President's Essay

### A Flourishing and Strong Community

Hakyong Cho, Student Vice President

... I would like to convey a heartfelt message to all of you as the student vice president. Our school places importance on moral values and the development of character. If we consider this from a biblical perspective, Jesus's teachings about love and forgiveness should guide our actions. Therefore, as students of Handong, we should love and care for one another, humbly respect others' opinions, and apply the principles of Jesus' love that embraces all people. I hope that we can apply these principles to our school life and create a warm and harmonious community. Furthermore, the effort to improve ourselves as a community is also connected to one's growth. Mistakes can help us become individuals. This is a significant lesson even within the context of Christian faith. We should understand that it's not about conforming to the world's standards of not tolerating mistakes, but rather realizing the consequence of learning through mistakes. Our commitment is to support and uplift one another while growing together. By understanding and practicing Jesus's teaching, our school will flourish into a strong community. Let us embark on this new journey together, practicing love and patience.



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## Towards Vision

Wookchan Song(G12), Aaron Hyunbin An(G12)

**Q. You won the grand prize in the Science Fair. Please explain your project.**

[S] The theme of our experiment is the one I've been experimenting with since 10th grade. I was curious about how to reduce the spread of germs during the pandemic, which was a year after the pandemic broke out. I found that a doorknob is a strong medium for germs, which led me to delve into how to sterilize them automatically. Ultraviolet light is excellent for sterilization, so it seems feasible to put ultraviolet LEDs on the doorknobs. And, where's the power for LEDs? It can be generated by people opening and closing the doors.

**Q. What is the role of HIS in your life?**

[A] HIS allowed me to discover who I am. I've learned a lot about myself, especially through my studies, projects with other friends, and sports leagues. With one semester left, HIS is the place for me to equip myself for a successful life in university. I hope to keep developing my self-discipline as I won't have someone to wake me up or remind me of homework.

[S] For me, HIS is the place where I can grow my dreams and visions. Since 10th grade, I've been armed with proper steps for studying energy by working on experiments I want to do, and reading books and related papers. HIS is also the place that trains me to be a steward of God. Last year, I did a lot of bible study in art performance class in preparation for musicals etc., which helped me to have an intimate relationship with God. So, I continue to do even now not to be away from God even when I go out into the world. ...

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## How an arrogant coward ended up running a start-up

Alumni Yejun Hwangbo

**Q. What influence did HIS have on your life?**

Before I came to Handong, I was an arrogant coward. But, after I entered Handong in high school, I realized that what I have is not something I can take for granted. HIS has so many activities that I would never experience in a regular school, and they still have a huge impact on my values and future. My parents sent me here to help me grow spiritually, but there are many other things I have learned. If I have to pick three among them, it would be problem-solving skills, role modeling, and challenging spirits. ...

**Q. Is there anything you want to say to HIS students?**

Don't lean on such an attitude as saying, "It's enough!"  
Don't wallow in self-pity!  
Do what you are doing and what you want, without regret!  
Don't hesitate to challenge yourself; Nothing to lose, just go for it!  
And do your best in your friendships!

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\* Mr. Yejun Hwangbo is a member of the class of 2018 at HIS. He majors in business administration and owns a meal kit store "Deun-deun-ha-KU(Konkuk University)" near his university.

## Taking a look back at 9-year-old life

Ms. Su Min Kim, ES Art Teacher

Today, we'd like to share with you the 2nd graders' artwork. It was a time for them to express their own steps in experiencing God's presence with the theme of "Shoes." With all their heart, all the 2nd graders joined in describing where they are standing and where they are going. The purpose of HIS ES art class is to know about God by realizing and appreciating that creativity is a gift from God. ...

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## Walking Self-Portraits

Ms. Min-jung Kim, MHS Art Teacher

Guess who it is by looking at someone's gesture? Or can you describe how you walk? What about those close to you? For this work, 7th graders observed their movements and identified their characteristics. This was done in the form of the pop art artist Julian Opie's work, who mainly draws people walking and running, and did an homage in search of his signature. They were able to get to know not only themselves but also each other during this moment to share the characteristics of each person as the clue by looking at only the moving body having no facial features. Let's guess together!



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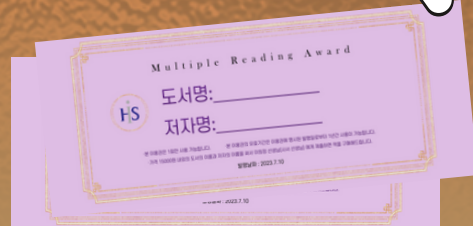
## San-check(冊) Gil: Book reviews

Ms. Hee Jung Lee, Librarian

HIS library's reading program this year is a book review activity through Cocoboco's "Reading Note." In particular, elementary school students conducted it in connection with Korean LA. The "Reading Note" distributed to all students is the standard for selecting multiple reading awards at the end of the semester. I would like to thank the students for participating in the assignment of book review appreciation, and introduce several book reviews.

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**The winner of the Award for extensive reading will receive 'Handong Book Gift Voucher' as a prize.**



## Discussing happiness

Ms. In Ok Kwak, MHS Korean LA Teacher

Here are some essays on happiness written by 11th graders. Let's take a look at what happiness HS literary students think?

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※ We are sorry that this column does not have an English translation.

